Trend Study 14-21-99

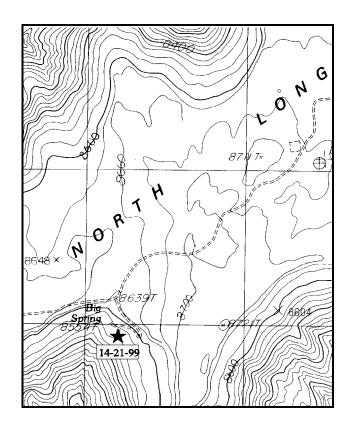
Study site name: North Long Point. Range type: Mixed Mountain Brush.

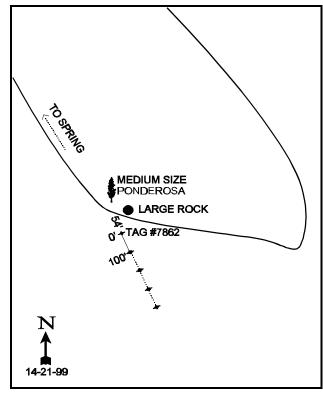
Compass bearing: frequency baseline 135°M.

Footmark (first frame at) 5 feet, footmarks (frequency belts) line 1 (11 & 71ft), line 2 (34ft), line 3 (59ft), line 4 (95ft).

LOCATION DESCRIPTION

From the road junction located approximately 1.5 miles north of Gooseberry Guard Station, continue north for 3.3 miles to a fork. Turn left and travel 4.5 miles on North Long Point towards the Dark Canyon Plateau. At the sign indicating "Big Spring" turn left. Continue 0.35 miles (stay right at 0.1 miles) further to a brushy ponderosa pine located inside the second sharp right bend in the road. Walk 12 paces southeast on an indistinct game trail to the short red-painted and green steel fencepost which marks the start of the baseline. From the PIPO the 0' baseline stake is 125°M and 12 paces from the road.





Map Name: Poison Canyon

Township 34S, Range 19E, Section 8

Diagrammatic Sketch

UTM 4188969.617 N, 601200 E

DISCUSSION

Trend Study No. 14-21 (36-9)

The North Long Point trend study is found on the southern rim of North Long Point, an extension of the northwest portion of Elk Ridge. The plateau drops off steeply from the rim into Poison Canyon, which drains into Dark Canyon. The transect runs south along the edge of the plateau rim through Ponderosa pines, oakbrush, mixed mountain brush stands, and small groves of aspen. The site has a generally west aspect with an elevation of 8,400 feet. The area is readily accessible by a road which turns off the main North Long Point road going toward Big Spring. This perennial spring has been developed for cattle use. The transect is below the open flats on top of North Long Point, much of which was treated (2,4-D) and seeded to grass in the early 1960's. No treatments, other than some over story removal of old growth Ponderosa pine, are evident on the actual transect. The study baseline samples Gambel oak, meadow areas, and an open Ponderosa pine forest. Point quarter data from 1999 estimate 30 Ponderosa pine, 31 pinyon, and 27 Rocky mountain juniper trees/acre. Average diameter of Ponderosa pine is 21 inches, while diameter of pinyon and juniper is 4.5 and 6.4 inches respectively. Overhead canopy cover of Ponderosa pine is variable on the site, yet averages 32%. Pinyon pine and Rocky mountain juniper overhead canopy cover averages 2% for each species. Total shrub and tree overhead cover averages over 56% over the whole site.

Cattle grazing is a major resource use in the area and cows were on site in 1992. The large Cottonwood allotment is managed by the Forest Service under a rest-rotation grazing system from June 16 to Sept 15. One of the three pastures is rested each grazing season. Currently, the allotment permits 676 head of cattle (3,718 AUMs) per year and an increase is being considered. Deer pellet groups were not frequently encountered during past readings. The area generally receives fairly moderate summer/fall deer use. Pellet group data from 1999 estimate 13 deer days use/acre (32 ddu/ha), 11 elk days use/acre (27 edu/ha), and 9 cow days use/acre (22 cdu/ha). All of the cow sign was from last season, however the site was read (6/23/99) before livestock were able to get onto the site. Rabbit sign was common. As with the rest of Elk Ridge, the area is open to oil and gas leasing, mining claims, and uranium exploration.

The soil is variable in depth. Effective rooting depth varies from 12 inches to 26 inches. Average effective rooting depth is estimated at over 17 inches over the whole site. Scattered rock slabs, some exposed and others just under the surface layer, are responsible for the variability. Soil texture is a loam with a slightly acid pH (6.1). Phosphorus is low at 8.7 ppm, when values less than 10 ppm have been determined to limit normal plant growth and development. Due to the fairly thick vegetation and litter cover, the soil has continuous ground cover with percent bare ground at less than 5% during all readings.

This study was set up in place of the Big Spring permanent line intercept study and samples an oakbrush opening surrounded by ponderosa pine. Many browse species were encountered on the frequency baseline, including such palatable species as snowberry, bitterbrush, aspen, and serviceberry. Also present is a small and declining population of lightly hedged mountain big sagebrush. Oak is the most abundant species which provided 26% of the browse cover in 1992, increasing to 48% by 1999. Most of the oak has received only light use since 1986. Vigor has been normal over the years and percent decadence low. Snowberry is also abundant. It provided 16% of the shrub cover in 1992, increasing to 35% in 1999. Density has remained similar between 1986 and 1999 at about 2,500 plants/acre. Many plants were moderately browsed in 1986 and 1992, although current use is light. The less common serviceberry and bitterbrush are vigorous, but are sought out and more heavily utilized.

A variety of grasses are present on the site, but none are particularly numerous. Grass abundance is fairly low over much of this site considering the elevation. The most common grasses include, smooth brome, sedge, mutton bluegrass, and Kentucky bluegrass. Forbs are moderately diverse but only a few species are abundant (Western yarrow, silky lupine, and goldenrod). Utilization of herbaceous plants appears to be light.

1986 TREND ASSESSMENT

Data from the old line intercept transects and the new Interagency study indicate a basically stable vegetative trend. The area is dominated by woody plants, so it would seem reasonable to continue management to maintain this valuable forage source in addition to a balance of grasses and forbs. The increase in oak numbers and production is in contrast to the possible decline of big sagebrush. Snowberry also has the potential to increase. Herbaceous forage is limited, but grass is plentiful nearby on top of the plateau. Possible future logging treatments could create more openings along the rim. The soil has a fairly continuous ground cover. There is evidence of some normal surface erosion in areas where the land drops off sharply to the rocky canyons below. Erosion is not a problem on the site and soil trend is stable.

1992 TREND ASSESSMENT

Soil trend is stable with a slight increase in percent bare ground to 4%. Percent litter cover has decreased, but this has happened on most all sites with the continuing prolonged drought. This would change with increased amounts of moisture. Of the preferred browse species, only serviceberry had a downward trend. The downward trend was because of it's small population which is highly preferred and heavily hedged. It should be noted that it only makes up <1% of the browse cover (biomass) and should not be considered a key management species on this site. The overall trend for browse is up. The trend for the herbaceous understory is slightly down for both the grasses and forbs have lower nested frequency values.

TREND ASSESSMENT

soil - stable

browse - up

herbaceous understory - slightly downward

1999 TREND ASSESSMENT

Trend for soil is up slightly with a decline in percent bare ground and an increase in litter cover. Protective ground cover is abundant and erosion is not a problem on the site. Trend for browse is down slightly due to a decline in density, strip frequency, and cover of the key species, Gambel oak and snowberry. Density of the more preferred serviceberry and mountain big sagebrush also declined but they are less heavily hedged. The amount of overhead canopy cover (shading) may be starting to negatively effect the understory shrubs. Trend for the herbaceous understory is stable. Sum of nested frequency for perennial grasses declined slightly while frequency of perennial forbs increased slightly. Grasses provide 64% of the herbaceous cover, however the overall herbaceous trend is considered stable since the dominant grass, smooth brome which is shade tolerant, increased significantly in nested frequency. Western yarrow and silky lupine are the two most common forbs to increase significantly in nested frequency. The only other common forb, goldenrod, remained at a similar frequency compared to 1992.

TREND ASSESSMENT

soil - up slightly

browse - down slightly

herbaceous understory - stable

HERBACEOUS TRENDS --

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21 T Species	Nested	Freque	ncy	Quadra	t Freque	ency	Average		
y	10.6	102	100	'86	10.2	100	Cove	er % 0 99	
p e	'86	'92	'99	80	'92	'99	19 2	199	
G Agropyron cristatum	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
G Bromus anomalus	9	14	3	3	6	1	.36	.03	
G Bromus inermis	_a 78	_a 68	ь117	25	23	36	2.77	4.64	
G Bromus tectorum (a)	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	.03	
G Carex spp.	_b 73	_b 58	_a 30	33	29	12	1.06	.91	
G Dactylis glomerata	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	.15	
G Koeleria cristata	_b 19	_b 27	a ⁻	10	13	-	.55	-	
G Poa fendleriana	_b 89	_{ab} 59	_a 45	34	25	20	1.07	.59	
G Poa pratensis	_a 6	_a 42	_b 43	2	16	15	.90	.69	
G Sitanion hystrix	_b 52	_a 23	_a 3	24	10	1	.36	.03	
G Stipa comata	2	6	1	1	3	1	.04	.00	
G Stipa lettermani	_b 10	_b 10	a ⁻	5	5	-	.07	-	
Total for Annual Grasses	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0.03	
Total for Perennial Grasses	340	307	244	138	130	87	7.21	7.05	
Total for Grasses	340	307	248	138	130	88	7.21	7.08	
F Achillea millefolium	_a 19	_{ab} 29	_b 48	9	13	19	.53	1.00	
F Artemisia ludoviciana	_b 28	_a 7	_a 2	11	2	1	.06	.00	
F Aster chilensis	a-	ь7	_c 19	-	3	9	.04	.24	
F Calochortus nuttallii	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	.00	
F Cirsium spp.	-	1	-	-	1	-	.03	-	
F Comandra pallida	8	2	5	3	1	2	.00	.01	
F Collinsia parviflora (a)	-	a ⁻	_b 13	-	-	5	-	.05	
F Crepis acuminata	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	
F Delphinium nuttallianum	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	.00	
F Erigeron flagellaris	_c 18	_b 4	a	10	3	-	.07	-	
F Eriogonum racemosum	_b 15	_a 6	_a 3	8	2	1	.03	.00	
F Gilia inconspicua (a)	-	_b 11	a ⁻	-	7	-	.06	-	
F Lappula occidentalis (a)	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	.00	
F Lupinus sericeus	_b 83	_a 10	_a 29	38	5	14	.08	1.16	
F Penstemon comarrhenus	2	3	-	1	2	-	.01	-	
F Phacelia hastata	4	3	-	2	2	-	.03	-	
F Phlox longifolia	a ⁻	_b 13	_b 12	-	6	5	.05	.02	
F Polygonum douglasii (a)	-	10	3	-	4	2	.02	.01	
F Senecio canus	4	1	2	4	1	1	.00	.00	
F Solidago sparsiflora	42	44	44	17	20	17	1.72	.93	
F Stellaria jamesiana	a ⁻	a ⁻	_b 24	-	-	8	-	.40	
F Thalictrum fendleri	a ⁻	_b 7	_b 6	_	3	3	.06	.18	
F Unknown forb-perennial	8	ab 1	a a	4	1	-	.00	-	

T Species	Nested	Freque	ncy	Quadra	t Freque	ency	Average Cover %		
p e	'86	'92	'99	'86	'92	'99	1 92	(99	
Total for Annual Forbs	0	21	17	0	11	8	0.07	0.06	
Total for Perennial Forbs	236	138	199	109	65	82	2.75	3.99	
Total for Forbs	236	159	216	109	76	90	2.83	4.05	

Values with different subscript letters are significantly different at % = 0.10

BROWSE TRENDS --

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

T y	Species	Str Frequ	-		erage ver %	
p e		9 2	(99	® 2	l 99	
В	Amelanchier utahensis	10	7	.18	.21	
В	Artemisia tridentata vaseyana	33	28	6.07	2.41	
В	Juniperus scopulorum	0	1	1.00	.41	
В	Mahonia repens	24	18	4.48	.15	
В	Pinus edulis	1	2	.63	.63	
В	Pinus ponderosa	0	1	23.22	-	
В	Populus tremuloides	1	2	-	1	
В	Purshia tridentata	5	5	.56	.21	
В	Quercus gambelii	64	62	16.25	11.52	
В	Symphoricarpos oreophilus	55	43	9.89	8.51	
Т	otal for Browse	193	169	62.31	24.07	

CANOPY COVER --Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

Species	Percent Cover 199
Amelanchier utahensis	.40
Juniperus scopulorum	2
Pinus edulis	2
Pinus ponderosa	32
Populus tremuloides	2
Quercus gambelii	18

BASIC COVER --

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

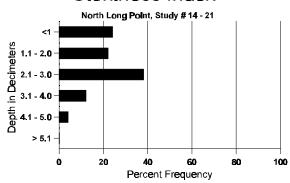
Cover Type	Nes Frequ		Ave	rage Cove	er %	
	092	1 99	'86	'92	'99	
Vegetation	256	273	7.25	58.70	31.86	
Rock	62	54	9.25	5.44	3.25	
Pavement	-	4	0	0	.03	
Litter	223	389	80.50	75.71	85.71	
Cryptogams	3	6	0	.06	.01	
Bare Ground	50	45	3.00	3.60	1.61	

SOIL ANALYSIS DATA --

Herd Unit 14, Study # 21, Study Name: North Long Point

Effective rooting depth (inches)	Temp °F (depth)	pН	%sand	%silt	%clay	%0M	PPM P	РРМ К	dS/m
17.3	50.0 (16.0)	6.1	46.4	33.1	20.6	3.1	8.7	137.6	0.5

Stoniness Index



PELLET GROUP DATA --

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

Type	Qua Frequ 192	
Rabbit	5	9
Elk	-	2
Deer	4	1
Cattle	1	2

Pellet Transect Days Use/Acre (ha)
N/A
11 (27)
13 (32)
9 (22)

BROWSE CHARACTERISTICS --

Herd unit 14, Study no: 21

He	rd ui	nit 14 , S	tudy In). <u>2</u> 1													
		Form C	lass (N	o. of P	lants)					V	igor Cl	ass			Plants Per Acre	Average (inches)	Total
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A	mela	nchier ut	tahensi	s													
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	92	2	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	5	-	-	200		10
	99	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	40		2
M	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	- 0
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A G		Form Cla	ass (No	o. of P	lants)						Vigor Cl	ass			Plants Per Acre	Average (inches)	Total
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	92 99	27 55	1	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	32 59	-	-	-	640 1180	4	- 32 6 59
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/0	1 Iui	'86	15	00%		030	00%		<u>c</u>)%					+98%	
		'92		.519			00%			00)%				-	-52%	
		'99		00%	Ď		00%	6		00)%						
$ _{\mathrm{T}_{i}}$	otal F	Plants/Acr	e (exc	luding	Dead	l & Se	edling	s)					'86		66	Dec:	_
		101105/1101	0 (0.10		, 2000			9					'92		3920	200.	-
													'99		1880		-
Pi	inus (edulis															
Y		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	0		0
	92	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20		1
L	99	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20		1
M	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	- 0
	92 99	- 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	-	-	0 20	_	- 0 - 1
0/2		nts Showii	1σ	Mod	derate	Hse	Наз	ıvy Us	e	D.	or Vigor					%Change	1
/0	1 Ial	186'	15	00%		<u> </u>	00%		<u> </u>	00						o Change	
		'92		00%	, D		00%	6		00)%				-	+50%	
		'99		00%	Ď		00%	ó		00)%						
T.	Otal I	Plants/Acr	e (evo	ludina	Dead	1 & Sa	edling	e)					'86		0	Dec:	
1'	otal I	rants/ACI	C (CAC	ruumg	, Deal	. X 30	cumg	<i>5)</i>					'92		20	Dec.	-
													'99		40		-

A Y G R		Form C	lass (N	o. of P	lants)						Vigor Cl	ass			Plants Per Acre	Average (inches)	Total
E		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	1 01 11010	Ht. Cr.	
Pinu	ıs p	onderos	a														
S 86	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
92		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20		1
99	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20		1
M 86		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$0 \\ 0$	-	0 0
99		-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	2	2	_	-	-	40		- 2
X 86	6	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	0		0
92	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
99	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20		1
% Pl	lan	ts Show			derate	Use		ivy Us	<u>se</u>		or Vigor				-	%Change	
		'86 '92		00% 00%			009 009			00							
		92 '99		00%			100			00							
Tota	ıl P	lants/Ac	re (ex	cluding	g Dead	l & Se	edling	s)					'86 '92		0	Dec:	-
													'99		40		-
Popu	ulu	s tremul	oides														
S 86	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
92		1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	40		2
99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
Y 86		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
92 99		3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2 3	-	-	-	40 60		2 3
		ts Show:	inα	Mod	derate	Ilca	Цая	ıvy Us	20	Do	or Vigor					MChange	
/0 1 1	ıaıı	'86'		00%		Osc	009		<u>sc</u>	00					-	70 Change	
		'92		00%	6		009	6		00)%				-	+33%	
		'99		00%	ó		00%	6		00)%						
Tota	1 P	lants/Ac	re (ex	cluding	Dead	l & Se	edlino	s)					'86		0	Dec:	_
15.00	1	-MIII)/ 1 IC	10 (OA)		,	50		~,					'92		40	200.	-
													'99		60		-

A	Y R	Form C	lass (N	o. of I	Plants)						Vigor (Class			Plants Per Acre	Average (inches)	Total
E	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	rei Acie	Ht. Cr.	
Pι	ırshi	a tridenta														<u> </u>	<u> </u>
S	86	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_			0		0
	92	1	_	-	-	_	_	_	_	-	1	_	_	-	20		1
	99	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	40		2
Y	86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
	92	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	40		2 3
Н	99	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	60		
M	86 92	-	1	2	- 1	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	-	-	0 80		0 4
	92 99	2	- -	<i>Z</i>	1 -	-	-	-	-	-	4 2	-	-	-	40	20 28	2
D	86									_				_	0		0
ר	92	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	0		0
	99	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20		1
%	Plar	nts Show			derate	Use		avy U	<u>se</u>		or Vigo	<u>r</u>				%Change	
		'86		009			009)%					. 00/	
		'92 '99		179 009			679 009)%)%				-	+ 0%	
		22		00	/0		00,	70		00	770						
To	otal I	Plants/Ac	ere (exc	cludin	g Dead	l & Se	edling	(s)					'86		0	Dec:	0%
													'92		120		0%
_													'99		120		17%
_		us gambe	elii													1	ı
S	86	- 15	-	-	- 57	-	-	-	-	-	- 01	20	-	-	0		0
	92 99	45 11	6	3	57 1	_	-	2	-	-	91 12	20	-	2	2260 240		113 12
Y	86	40	3	1			_	_	_	_	32	7	4	1	2933		44
1	92	267	99	-	8	_	_	18	_	-	281	111	-	-	7840		392
	99	118	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	125	-	-	-	2500		125
Μ	86	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
	92	53	62	9	17	-	-	-	12	-	133	15	5	-	3060		153
	99	138	-	-	6	-	-	1	11	12	168	-	-	-	3360	51 37	168
D	86	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	66		1
	92 99	2 1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 1	4	-	-	140 20		7 1
v	86	1	-											_			
X	86 92	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0		0
	99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	720		36
%	Plar	nts Show	ing	Mo	derate	Use	Hea	avy U	se	Po	or Vigo	o <u>r</u>				_	
		'86		079		_	029				%				-		
		'92 '99		309			029				0%						
		99	•	009	7 0		049	7 0		U)%						
To	otal I	Plants/Ac	ere (exc	cludin	g Deac	l & See	edling	(s)					'86		2999	Dec:	2%
													'92		11040		1%
													'99		5880		0%

	Y R	Form Class (No. of Plants)										Vigor Class				Average (inches)		Total
E		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	Per Acre	Ht. Cr.		
S	ympł	oricarpo	s oreo	philus														
S	86 92 99	2 20 3	- 1 -	- - -	3	- - -	- - -	3 1	- - -		2 27 4	- - -	- - -	- - -	133 540 80			2 27 4
Y	86 92 99	16 71 42	2 33	- 1 -	-	1	- - -	10 3	- - -	1 1 1	17 116 45	- - -	1 -	- - -	1200 2320 900			18 116 45
M	86 92 99	3 16 72	14 57	- 5 -	2	3	- - -	- - -	- - -		12 83 72	1 - -	4 -	- - -	1133 1660 1440	33 - 24	38 - 36	17 83 72
D	86 92 99	1 - 1	4 -	1 - -	- - -	1	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 1 1	3 - 1	- - -	2 1	1 -	400 20 20			6 1 1
X	86 92 99	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 1 1	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	0 0 40			0 0 2
%	Plar	nts Showing '86 '92 '99		499 489	Moderate Use 49% 48% 00%		Heavy Use 02% 03% 00%			20	oor Vigor)% 0% 0%		%Change +32% -41%					
Total Plants/Acre (excluding Dead & Seedlings)											'86 '92 '99	2	2733 4000 2360	Dec:		15% 1% 1%		